1	2	3	4
5.	Sterling Cellular	TataTeleservices Ltd.	Delhi
6.	Bharti Mobile Limited	HFCL Info Tel Limited	Punjab
7.	Spice Communication Limited	HFCL Info Tel Limited	Punjab
8.	Hutchison Essar South Limited	TataTeleservices Ltd.	Karnataka
9.	Hutchison Essar South Limited	TataTeleservices Ltd.	Chennai
10.	Bharti Mobinet Limited	TataTeleservices Ltd.	Chennai

Problems of limited mobile services

2972. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(c) whether the Telecom Industry Committee set up by Government to resolve the issue of fixed line operators, offering limited mobile services, has succeeded in solving the problems; and

(d) if so, the details of the efforts made by the said Committee and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHONOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Online payment of telephone bills

2973. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems of online payment of telephone bills;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the bottlenecks in settlement of telephone bills using online banking facilities; and

(d) the steps taken to streamline the procedure of online settlement of telephone bills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Since 1.10.2000, the Government is no longer providing telephone services. These are provided by the public sector undertakings, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and Mahanagar Telephones Nigam Limited as well as private operators. The existing guidelines of BSNL and MTNL envisage online payments of telephone bills through authorized banks. No problem of online payments have come to notice where bills been paid through the authorized banks.

(a) There are no fundamental bottlenecks in settling telephone bills using an online banking facility, provided the payment is made by the subscriber to such banks authorized by the local telephone authority.

(b) Does not arise.

Reduction in STD rates by BSNL

2974. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state;

(a) whether there is any proposal to reduce the rates of STD by BSNL;

(b) if so, the extent of such reduction; and

(c) by when the new rates would be given effect to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) The STD rates were last reduced by BSNL with effect from 07.03.2003. At present no proposal for further reduction in the STD rates is under consideration.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.